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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/669,897	09/27/2000	Jun Ibuki	826.1628/JDH	4426
21171	7590	01/23/2006		
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			EXAMINER RIMELL, SAMUEL G	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2164	

DATE MAILED: 01/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/669,897

Applicant(s)

IBUKI ET AL.

Examiner

Sam Rimell

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 3-10 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 11, 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.


SAM RIMELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

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The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Paik et al. (U.S. Patent 6,148,312).

Claim 1: Reference is made to FIG. 4. Step (402) involves the extraction and examination of text (contents of articles) and text fact data (metadata). The metadata has at least three parts: (1) target object (article content in the metadata—col. 6, line 43): (2) an attribute name (the title of the article in the metadata—col. 6, line 42: and (3) an attribute value (versions of the article which are archived—col. 3, lines 15-16).

As seen in FIG. 4 step (404-406), articles which are missing metadata will have metadata created for that article. This is a grouping of data (metadata) with an article. Doing this step for all the articles is a step of data aggregation. The complete resulting set of information, including all metadata, corrected articles and non-corrected articles form an aggregated data set.

As seen in FIG. 4 step (408), the system detects an inconsistent data group (metadata that lacks an associated article of information) by scanning data set after aggregation (404-406) has occurred. The system then erases the erroneous metadata and determines the remaining data to be correct by proceeding to the “Return” step. The Delete Metadata” step aids in unifying the correct metadata with the correct article.

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Claim 2: Step (402) is the data extraction unit. Metadata extracted includes target object (article content); attribute name (title of article) and attribute value (versions of article which have been archived). Step (406) is the data aggregating unit since it creates new metadata when it does exist and aggregates the data with each article. All the resulting data is the “one data set”. Step (408) is the inconsistency detecting unit which detects metadata that is not associated with an article. The correctness determining unit is the process step “Return” since only correct metadata associated with correct articles are determined to exist at this step. The data integrating unit is the “Delete Metadata” step since this step aids in integrating only the correct metadata with the correct articles by deleting metadata lacking any association with an article.

Claim 11: See remarks for claim 1.

Claim 12: See remarks for claim 1. Note that the grouped fact data is completed at steps (404-406) so the inconsistency detection step (408) must occur on the grouped fact data.

Claims 3-10 are allowed.

Remarks

Applicant's arguments and amendments have been entered and considered.

Claim 1: Applicant's primary argument is that the aggregated data set is that data set which is formed from extracted data, not a combination of extracted fact data and text. This argument has been considered, but is not consistent with what is being claimed. Claim 1 calls for “..at least one aggregated data set from the extracted fact data..”. This limitation does not state that the aggregated data excludes combinations of extracted data and text data, it only states that the aggregated includes at least some extracted data. In Paik et al., the aggregated data set created at steps 404-406 include the extracted data (contents of articles) and, when necessary,

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newly created text data (metadata) which are aggregated together. This is consistent with what is being currently claimed. The aggregated data set also includes articles which already have metadata, so in this alternate case, both the article data and metadata are the extracted data.

Applicant also argues that Paik et al. does not disclose the extracted data including target object, attribute name and attribute value. This argument is not correct. Each of these features are taught in Paik et al., as outlined in greater detail on page 2, in the first paragraph of the discussion for claim 1.

Claim 2: Applicant argues that the articles which are extracted and examined in step (402) do not constitute a “data set”. This argument is of correct. An article contains information and that information constitutes data. The descriptions of the article (metatdata), such as the title of the article or version of the article also constitute data.

Applicant argues that Paik et al. does not disclose the two separate operations of detecting inconsistency and determining correctness/incorrectness. This argument is not correct for two reasons. First, claim 2 is addressed to an apparatus and not a method, so it is not actually claiming operations (method steps), but are claiming individual sets of instructions. Secondly, Paik et al. has two separate instructions which meet the claimed limitations. Paik et al. has an instruction for inconsistency detection at (step 408, detecting articles without metadata) and a correctness determining instruction (“return”—returns only a set of correct metadata associated with correct articles).

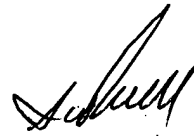
Claims 11: Applicant’s arguments for this claim reflect those arguments which were already presented for claim 2.

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Claim 12: Applicant argues that Paik et al. does not disclose any form of scanning operation on grouped fact data. This argument is moot. Claim 12 contains no mention of scanning information.

This rejection is made in response to an RCE request and is made non-final.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Sam Rimell at telephone number (571) 272-4084



Sam Rimell
Primary Examiner
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